

OREGON TUALATIN VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



An ARRL Special Service Club

May 1989

Next Meeting May 10, 1989

New Club Members

By Kathy, KB7DNK

We have 3 new members this month: Kenneth Thomas, Donald Schook (K7AYM) and Don Lambut (N7LBL).

Kenneth has been interested in ham radio and electronics since he was 12 years old. He does not have a call yet, but he has passed his extra theory. All he needs now is to pass his 20 words per minute. One of his hobbies is sailing. Kenneth likes the technical aspects of ham radio the best. He is also interested in DX. Kenneth will be retiring in a few weeks.

Donald has been a Ham for 25 years. Some of his hobbies are photography, computers and fishing. Donald's favorite band is 20 meters. The thing he enjoys most about ham radio is meeting new people.

Don got interested in ham radio while he was in the hospital. Someone there had a ham license and Don became interested. He has been a ham for a year now. One of the things Don enjoys doing is working with wood. He likes 2 meters quite a bit. The thing he likes about ham radio is the autopatch because when his electric wheelchair breaks down he can get help.

Please say "Hi" to Kenneth, Donald and Don at the next meeting and make them feel welcome!

Words from the President

By Ray Deeth, K7VDQ

SEAPAC convention and field day is fast approaching reality with members working many extra hours preparing to make these events a successful endeavor. The contest committee can be proud of the 10 meter APRIL FOOLS contest because there were between 40 and 50 participants. GREAT TIME!

I traveled to the BIG EDDY campgrounds near Vernonia to visit with the OTVARC RV group on their camp out. The food was delicious, the fellowship outstanding and the

entertainment around the camp fire was an added attraction. Norma took one look at GENO's 1950 sweat shirt with all the holes and said she had not torn a shirt off a man's back in a long time. Needless to say GENO is minus one sweat shirt. Then the pieces were burned in the camp fire.

I wish to thank all the people who turned in the Christmas party survey forms handed out at the last meeting. At the time of this writing, 35 forms have been returned with 27 indicating they wanted a change in this year's Christmas party. With this strong support, the board will begin immediately with arrangements and have something to report to the membership by the September meeting.

The 10 meter survey showed great support for some type of Sunday information net or anytime during the week. I will make every effort for a Sunday 10 meter OTVARC OPEN FORM HOUR. I may even send a little CW just in case someone would like to practice their code. Time: 7 P.M. to 8 P.M., PDT.

Currently the club meeting raffle is suffering from lack of support from you members. The board has discussed this matter in detail and has decided to offer an expensive raffle prize to see if this would draw more support. With the expensive power supply at the last meeting, the raffle support was still rather low. Please feel free to contact any board member to express any idea you may have for improving the raffle support. It has been suggested that we discontinue the raffle for a few meetings.

If anyone would like to volunteer to help with the OTVARC booth at the SEAPAC CONVENTION, please see me (K7VDQ) or Randy (KZ7T) for scheduling you for booth duty. The OTVARC booth will be an information center as well as promoting the OTVARC CLUB activities. Of course we will take any applications for membership.

Program for May

E.E. "Van" VanValkenberg

Head Communications Officer on Air Force One

Four Five Six? (28.456 Mhz)

By John Koenig, NB7W

The OTVARC board recently discussed the publication and use of selected frequencies that would be commonly used by club members. the general idea is that we would all use the same frequency to meet and communicate with other club members. This could give us may of the advantages of a club repeater without the commitment of time or expense.

Years ago 145.67 Mhz ("five six seven"), used by the crew that erected towers to buy our club trailer, became the standard two meter simplex frequency. Today you're sure to find OTVARC members there at swap meets, Field Day, and many other activities. It works well for local QSOs with no repeater ID, no kerchunkers, no autopatches, and little traffic from hams across town we might not want to listen to. Limited range of the typical hand held two meter radio is the main problem on four five six.

Several have suggested that we use 28.456 Mhz for similar purposes. "Four five six" is in the Novice SSB sub-band and open to all club members. Ground wave range should be adequate to cover most OTVARC members. It's a great idea!

We can use this new frequency for casual QSOs and for many other activities, such as on the air committee meetings or club nets. Who knows, we might even replace the telephone with our radios!

My hunch is that activity will be light at first, so why not start by monitoring around 7:00 P.M. A "CQ OTVARC" might get things rolling, so try it. Be patient, if the frequency is quite leave the radio on and turn up the squelch while you are near your radio but doing other things.

Let's do it! See you on "four five six" (28.456 Mhz).

2 Meter Autopatch Usage

From ARRG

AMATEUR RADIO RELAY GROUP INC. STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT

The purpose and intent of the Amateur Radio Relay Group Inc., is to develop, operate and maintain, a reliable broad coverage emergency communications repeater system, capable of satisfying the regional Amateur Radio emergency communications needs.

To accomplish this purpose on of the things that ARRG has done is to make emergency autopatch access

available to the amateur community on the 147.32 and 174.04 repeaters. these emergency numbers are available for any Amateur licensed to operate on the 2 meter ham band who posses a 2 meter radio with a touch tone pad. To use these codes please use the following procedure.

1. Listen to the repeater to determine if it is in use and whether you can work it. Autopatch use requires a clean signal.
2. Announce your call and that you are using the autopatch.
3. Enter the access code for the function you are using. (See below)
4. Let the person answering the phone know that you are talking on the radio at the beginning of your first transmission.
5. Stay on the line as long as requested by the dispatcher that you are calling.
6. At the completion of the call announce your call, clear the autopatch, then hang up the patch with "# #".

Remember these are direct lines to the 911 emergency dispatch centers and should be used accordingly.

To help support the repeaters and autopatch service ARRG welcomes your support. A full membership to ARRG (\$20 / year) entitles the member to receive the access codes to use the autopatch. An associate membership (\$12 / year) is for other users who do not desire the autopatch privileges but want to support the operation of the repeaters. If more than one ham lives under the same roof, they can come in with a family membership (\$30 / year) with full privileges.

Mail to ARRG Inc., P.O. Box 10031, Portland, OR, 97210

Call _____ Phone _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Membership Type _____ Date Joined _____

Interested in:
2M _____, 220 Mhz _____, 440 Mhz _____, Other _____

*911 Washington County Emergency Dispatch
*912 Portland Emergency Dispatch
*934 Clackamas County Emergency Dispatch
*936 Yamhill County Emergency Dispatch
*951 Oregon State Police Portland
*952 Washington State Patrol Vancouver
*953 Oregon State Police Salem
*973 Oregon Road Report

DX for Beginners and Others

By Greg Milnes, W7AGQ

Last month we talked about DXing the FM, TV and standard broadcast bands. Some of you may have tried to pick up stations in Cincinnati, New Orleans, Minneapolis or Pittsburgh. If you did you probably found a good deal of QRM. If any are interested I have the plans for building a loop antenna to null out QRM coming in from different directions. I really works!

There is another group of frequencies that draws millions of listeners every day (and night). If you listen in on 40 meters occasionally, you have probably cursed (or at least thought unkind thoughts about) these stations...the giant shortwave monsters.

There is much for the DXer to complain about concerning these denizens of the ether. They are way too loud, regularly pumping hundreds of thousands of watts into giant beam antennas. They even go so far as to use relays. You can pick up Radio Austria and think you've got a station from 8,000 miles away...quite a catch. Not so. The transmitter is leased from Radio Canada. The same for the Voice of Free China, renting from WYFR in Florida.

With that, let's launch into the wonderful world of short wave broadcasting. Like the ham frequencies, short-wave broadcasting is grouped into bands:

49 meters	5950 - 6200 khz
*41 meters	7100 - 7300 khz (40 mtr ham band)
31 meters	9500 - 9900 khz
25 meters	11650 - 12050 khz
22 meters	13600 - 13800 khz
19 meters	15100 - 15600 khz
16 meters	17550 - 17900 khz
13 meters	21450 - 21850 khz
11 meters	25600 - 26100 khz

* Not used for broadcasting in the Western Hemisphere...though by the sounds of it, it seems to be.

You may say, that's nice there are all those frequencies but I don't have a super-duper shortwave receiver. Fortunately that's not too much of a problem anymore. Good receivers can be bought very inexpensively. Try the Sea-Pac Convention in June at Seaside or ask around, there are lots of them available.

Antennas, you say? Easy! String up a wire or use your HF antennas. Because there are so many frequencies and the powers and directional gain so large, you can get away with just about anything from an ice-pick to a sterba curtain.

It is easy to get started...just listen! Actually, there are English language programs beamed at North America around the clock. Try the BBC at 0030 - 0330 *UTC, 5975, 6175 and 7325 khz. Listen to the sounds of Romania (whatever they are) at 0400 - 0430 UTC on 5990, 6155, 9510, 9570, 11810 and 11940 khz. Then just to pay your respects to the station where the quad antenna was invented, check in with, "...the voice of the Andes, HCJB, Quito, Ecuador in South America...." They'll be on from 0500 - 0700 UTC, on 6230, 9720 and 11775 khz.

*Remember: Add 8 hours to Pacific Standard Time to get Universal Coordinated Time.

There are hundreds of shortwave stations on the air. I was not kidding when I said there are stations beaming to North America in English, 24 hours a day. Even some of the exotic places try their hand at enticing the US/Canadian listener. Look for Dubai in the United Arab Emirates or even the most wanted "ham" country in the world, Albania. Its simple on shortwave.

Want more information? Try Portland Radio (here's a plug Joe). If you pony up \$19.95 and tell them you belong to OTVARC, you can get a copy of the 1989 WORLD RADIO TV HANDBOOK. You'll be getting one of the most interesting books I have and by mentioning OTVARC get the club 1% of the purchase price.

The book is chock full of goodies, like the advertisement for the Broadcasting Service of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Holy Quran (that's how they spelled it) Broadcast of "the Call of Islam." It also has information from all countries that have radio and TV stations. The whole thing is 575 pages long. It is well worth it the next time there is a crises somewhere and you want to go right to the source for the news. Impress your friends with a casual, "well when I was listening to Radio Kiev an hour ago, they said...."

I've spent the last couple of months on non-ham DX. I've been saving up, so look out. I'm moving back in my house (finally, sigh) as this is being written. I have big antenna plans and am collecting parts for a "Stanley Ham" amplifier (pair of 4-1000As). Until next month...

73 and 88 (where appropriate) with a casual, "well when I was listening to Radio Kiev an hour ago, they said...."

WASHINGTON COUNTY
ARES NET

TUESDAY 7PM 147.04

ARES MEMBERS - FORMER ARES MEMBERS
ANY INTERESTED AMATEURS

A.R.E.S. Training Drill Well Attended

By Jim Yohe, KF7KY

Saturday, April 22, turned out to be a good day to get together and have a training drill and meet some people we only "hear" on the radio. It was the day the Amateur Radio Emergency Service in Washington County held its Relocation Direction Drill.

Eight hams, along with family and friends, showed up for the approximate 2 hour exercise. The hams who attended were N27J, N7GFK, N2GL, KB7EVK, KA7EWK, N7IBI, WB7FJC, and KF7KY. Due to illnesses KA7IOB and K7SXI couldn't attend the drill, but the effort to notify me was very appreciated.

The drill consisted of getting together at a "staging point", receiving instructions, pairing up with other hams, and then going out "in the field" and instructing each other how to travel from one place to another. We reconvened and talked over what was right and wrong with the drill. We found a "dead" or "weak" spot near Baseline and Cornelius Pass roads in the 147.04 repeater. Conflicts in simplex QSO's were experienced along with the realization that 2 meter FM from a handheld doesn't work as well as mobile 25 to 45 watt units with magmount antennas. Congratulations to N2GL & KB7EVK and WB7FJC & her mother for winning some extra coax cables for covering the most mileage during the drill.

Next month, Washington County A.R.E.S. will be helping the American Diabetes Association in their BIKERIDE PLUS event. Planning will occur during the next meeting of this A.R.E.S. group and during the weekly nets. All are invited to help with this worthy cause. There will be a lot of diabetic children who may need the quick assistance of Amateur Radio in the event of an emergency or problem. Show the kids you care. Volunteer!

For further information or for A.R.E.S. registration here is my address and phone:

Jim Yohe KF7KY
Washington County A.R.E.S. EC
Route 3 Box 237W
Sherwood, Oregon 97140
Home phone: (503) 625-5771

Please join the A.R.E.S. and help build a stronger local group. Your membership is valuable and we can use your help immediately!

73 - Jim

AMATEUR RADIO RELAY GROUP INC.

P.O. Box 10031, Portland, Oregon 97210

South Saddle Mountain

147.32 (+ Offset) Autopatch
449.225 (- Offset) 224.500 (- Offset)

Channel 6 TV Tower

147.04 (+ Offset) Autopatch
449.325 (- Offset)

Mount Hood

147.12 (+ Offset)

Full Dues \$20.00

Associate Dues \$12.00

Scanning Tip

By John Koenig, NB7W

If you own a two meter handheld or other radio that can be programmed to scan outside the ham bands you may enjoy this tip.

The secret is in the FCC's band plan. Law enforcement frequencies are generally spaced every 60 KHz between 154.65 Mhz (Beaverton Police) and 155.91 Mhz (Oregon State Police).

Proceed by programing your radio's scanning limit frequencies, from above, in the memories that are used for this. Then program the scanning step to 60 KHz. Your radio will now quickly scan many of the law enforcement frequencies in the 150 Mhz band while bypassing the uninteresting business traffic.

This scanning technique will work well anyplace in the U.S. as the FCC appears to have used a similar band plan everywhere.

Another frequency that this scheme will not scan is the Hillsboro Police radio at 154.78 Mhz. You may wish to use alter memory to monitor the Hillsboro Police. This just proves that there is an exception to every rule, HI.

The OVARC NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, it's officers, advertisers or the Editorial Staff. Articles or letters may be submitted to: Jeffrey A. Durr, KA7AKU, Editor, 20320 S.W. Clarion Street, Aloha, Oregon 97006. Deadline for all newsletter material is the 25th of the preceding month.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Lodge, 3500 S.W. 104th Avenue, Beaverton, Oregon. Meetings begin at 7:00 P.M. following a buffet dinner served at 6:15 P.M.

All correspondence other than for this newsletter should be sent to: Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, Post Office Box 5132, Beaverton, Oregon 97006-0132.

ARRL Committee Reports on No-Code License

(Editors Note: This article is being reprinted from the May 1989 "ARRL Northwestern Divisional Club Letter")

A special committee appointed by ARRL President Larry D. Price, W4RA, has submitted a report recommending the creation of a class of Amateur Radio license not requiring a knowledge of Morse code. The report was presented to the ARRL Executive Committee which met on April 1. The Executive Committee did not take a position on the substance of the report, but authorized its publication in full in the April 7 ARRL letter and the May issue of QST and referred it to the full Board of Directors for consideration during its July 21-22 meeting. ARRL members, other licensed radio amateurs and others interested in Amateur Radio are invited to review the report and make their views known to Division Directors.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE REPORT

1. No Licensee should lose any present privileges.
2. The present Technician (3A) pool is already being revised to correct shortcomings in its syllabus. The Committee feels this action is needed and its completion is a foundation of our recommendations. The examination length for this element should be increased to 30 questions to accommodate the slightly expanded syllabus.
3. The present Technician class will be renamed "Technician Plus". Each holder of the present Technician class license on the date of implementation of this proposal by the FCC will become a "Technician Plus".
4. A new class of license, called the "Technician", will be created. To obtain this license, an applicant will be required to pass the present Novice (Element 2) and the revised Technician (Element 3A) written examinations. Both of these examinations must be administered through the Volunteer Examiner Program and credit will not be given for having passed Element 2 before Novice Examiners.
5. For a Technician to become a Technician Plus, he or she need only pass the Novice Code (Element 1A) examination at five words per minute. This must also be done through the Volunteer Examiner Program.
6. The licensees of the new class should have distinctive call signs. These would be 2x3s beginning with NA#AAA. Upon obtaining a Technician Plus license, the first letter would change to "K" (or the appropriate 1x3 if the licensee requests). In practice, these licensees would

probably begin with NE#AAA to avoid duplication with suffixes already issued in the KA-KC series.

7. The new Technicians should have all privileges now allowed present Technicians above 30 Mhz except in the two meter band. On two meters, the new Technicians should have only digital privileges from 144.9 to 145.1 Mhz.

What Happens Next?

As reported in the April 7th ARRL Letter, "Executive Vice President Sumner stressed that the committee's report does not represent League policy at this time. The Board of Directors is the policy-making body of the organization, with or without modifications, will become League policy. He pointed out that League is a representative democracy, with Directors elected to represent the members of their Divisions. Accordingly, anyone reading the report and wishing to have his or her views considered is urged to write to Director Rush Drake, W7RM, or by packet to Vice Director Shrader, W7QMU @ WB7VMS, prior to 15 July for the Board Meeting".

Assuming the board approves the report with or without modifications at the July meeting, the League Counsel will be directed to file with the FCC a request for rule making. Typically the NPRM process within the FCC will take about a year or more before it becomes effective.

Where do all the newsletters go?

By Jeffrey Durr, KA7AKU

I wanted to take a little space this month to thank some of the members that have contributed articles to this newsletter in the past few months.

Greg Milines, W7AGQ, continues to pound out articles on DX like clock work. John Koenig, NB7W, has slipped in a few notes on what is going on around the club. Our Club president, Ray Deeth, K7VDQ, has his monthly column. And I am personally impressed with Kathy Ewing, KB7DNK, who takes the time to interview the new members in the club each month and submit an article.

As you read this, consider that every other member of your club will too. *I sent this newsletter to over 200 addresses!* Some of these are other ham clubs, but many are members who can't make it to our monthly meetings. Some members work at night. California, Texas, and Florida and other states are on the mailing list. I would like to see input from every club committee each month. After making your announcement at the next meeting, turn in a copy to me to publish in the next newsletter. If you are planning a club event, give me a call so I can let *every member of the club* know about it.

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Address Correction Requested

